Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2022

5,300: International Law

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s
(binding regulations see below)
Central - Written examination (100%, 90 mins.)
Examination time: inter-term break

Attached courses
Timetable — Language — Lecturer
5,300.1.00 International Law — Englisch — Burri Thomas
5,300.2.01 International Law: Exercises, Group 1 — Englisch — Achermann Katja Francesca
5,300.2.02 International Law: Exercises, Group 2 — Englisch — Beck Juliane

Course information

Course prerequisites
Typically, students are in the fifth semester.

Learning objectives
Acquire a basic understanding of public international law // learn to understand judgments, discuss on that basis, and extract the important information from judgments // learn to think like an international lawyer.

Course content
This course offers an introduction to international law. By means of concrete legal documents from specific cases (such as judgments of international courts and resolutions of the UN Security Council), we discuss the structural aspects of the international legal order. The focus is on classic international law (including actors, sources, responsibility, use of force), but the more specific regimes, such as human rights and humanitarian law are also dealt with. Students are expected to study very carefully the documents that are made available before they attend class. Tutorials supplement the lectures. They are taught by teaching assistants. They are a necessary part of the course, i.e. you need to attend the tutorials to cope with this course, its content, and the workload. The style of the tutorials is not fundamentally different from the lectures, but they give you the possibility to interact even more.

Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

Weekly course of 90 minutes with lectures, interaction, and discussion. Students prepare in advance by means of the readings made available. Tutorials are part of the course.

Course literature
A reader will be made available on Canvas on a continuous basis during the course.

Additional course information
Thomas Burri is a professor of international law and European law. He is the academic director of the Master in International Law (MIL) program. For further information, including publications (link to SSRN), news, etc., see: https://www.unisg.ch/en/universitaet/schools/law/ueber-1s/faculty/burri

Examination information

Fact sheet version: 2.0 as of 27/10/2022, valid for Autumn Semester 2022
Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/1)

Examination time and form
Central - Written examination (100%, 90 mins.)
Examination time: inter-term break

Remark
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Examination-aid rule
Extended Closed Book for Examinations in Law

The use of the examination aids is restricted. In addition to the principles set out in this section, other permitted examination aids must be listed exhaustively in the section "supplementary aids".

The following applies in principle:

- All calculators of the Texas Instruments TI-30 series as well as monolingual or bilingual dictionaries (not specialised dictionaries) without hand written notes are accepted. All other calculator models and electronic dictionaries are not allowed;
- Furthermore, any kind of communication and all programmable and communication-capable electronic devices such as notebooks, tablets, mobile phones etc. are not permitted;
- The procurement of examination aids is the sole responsibility of the students;
- All official federal enactments in the four national languages and in the English translation of the Swiss Federal Chancellery as well as the official enactments of the Canton of St.Gallen are always permitted. The decrees that are required for the examination are listed under the heading "examination aids-rule";
- Additional examination aids and private collections of enactments are only permitted if they are explicitly listed in the examination aids-rule. This is an exhaustive list. Any private collections not listed are expressly prohibited and will be confiscated without substitution, regardless of whether they are commented, uncommented or annotated legal editions;
- Unless otherwise defined in the examination aids-rule, all permitted documents may be combined in any number and language.

The following preparation of the legal texts is permitted:

- References to other articles of the law, including all designations and numbers as they appear in the permitted legal texts (e.g: Art 62 ff. OR4 / Art. 164 para. 1 lit. a BV5 / Art. 25 para. 2 lit. a no. 8 MWSTG6 / Art. 158 BV in connection with Art. 4 ParlG7 / Art. 29 II BV etc.), these must be written in a national language and/or in English;
- Markings with any kind of pens including highlighters in different colours (e.g: underlining, encircling, special characters like arrows, stars, etc.). Systematic marking of individual letters is not permitted, and all other notes and comments are also prohibited;
- Registers: Self-adhesive labels in the margin of the respective legal text are permitted, but they may only be used with the marginalia, titles, articles (e.g: Art. 141 BV: Optional referendum or 5th title: Federal authorities or Art. 5 BV) of the relevant page.

Print-outs and copies of legal texts approved (i.e. all official editions or permitted private collections including tables of contents and subject indexes) must correspond 1:1 to the original; the original source must be clearly traceable.

Supplementary aids
Blackstone's International Law Documents (current or previous edition), OUP.

Examination languages
Examination content

All materials contained in the reader and discussed in class (incl. tutorials).

The topics focus on classic international law (including actors, sources, responsibility, use of force), but includes more specific regimes, such as human rights and humanitarian law as well.

Students are expected to study very carefully the documents that are made available before class.

Examination relevant literature

The entire reader, which will be made available until the last week of the term (week 51) at the latest on studynet, and the texts dealt with in Blackstone’s International Law Documents.

Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers’ websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW51) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 42 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 34 (Thursday, 25 August 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 17 October 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 17 October 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 45 (Monday, 7 November 2022).